

PASCOAG UTILITY DISTRICT - BOARD OF UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Pascoag Utility District Board of Utility Commissioners will be held on Monday, April 28, 2008 at 6:00 pm in the District office, Pascoag 253 Pascoag Main Street, Pascoag, RI.

Members Present: Chairman Albert Palmisciano, Vice-Chair Ann Polacek, Commissioners William Mageau, Thomas Partridge, Dennis Whitman, and Adrien Trudeau

Members Absent: Commissioner Brian Choiniere (excused due to military duty)

Also in Attendance: Theodore Garille, General Manager; William Bernstein, General Counsel

Chairman Palmisciano opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Committee Comments

- **Benefits Subcommittee-** The Benefits Subcommittee met and looked at the LTC Contract and received quotes from different companies. The Benefits Subcommittee is recommending the Board approve the LTC Contract with UNUM.
- **Electric Subcommittee-** The Electric Subcommittee met and reviewed Docket 3931. The Docket concerned required least cost procurement of energy and a level of reliability. There were two meetings held on this subject at the RIPUC. PUD's position is that we are not mandated to comply with their terms.
- **Water Subcommittee-** Mr. Palmisciano presented possible uses for left over STAG Grant money and went over alleged violations of Well #5. The Water Sense rebates were also reviewed which would allow homeowners who put water efficient products in their home to be eligible for rebates.

4. Good and Welfare of the District

A. Thank You

- Two thank you letters were presented to the Board. One from Pascoag Library thanking PUD for allowing them to use the Community Room for a recent meeting and one from Jim Hoppe of St. Joseph's Church for PUD allowing linesmen to work on a recent project. Mr. Partridge made a motion to file, which was seconded by Mr. Whitman. The vote in favor was unanimous.

B. Blackstone Valley Guide

- Ms. Allaire spoke about Pascoag Utility District's involvement in the Blackstone Valley Guide. PUD recently ran an ad that provided energy saving tips. Blackstone Valley Tourism has also featured PUD's website link on their website. Mr. Partridge made a motion to file, which was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

C. PUC Data Request – Docket No. 1725

- Ms. Allaire reviewed the customer shut off information. The average customer balance for disconnection is in excess of \$250.00. Ms. Allaire stated that 6 residential standard customers were disconnected and 233 notices were sent out for the month of March. There were also 8 written agreements, and 68 verbal agreements. There are 70-80 people that are scheduled for disconnections at the end of April. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Partridge, seconded by Mr. Mageau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

D. NYISO Transmission Charges Update

- Mr. Garille stated that NYISO now buys power from whichever generator is the closest not which is the cheapest. This is in turn increasing the cost to PUD. PUD is trying to resolve this problem by negotiating without attorneys at this time. Mr. Garille will keep the Board updated of any progress.

E. RIPUC Least Cost Procurement Reliability Docket

- Mr. Garille stated that it is PUD's position that the District is not subject to these requirements. PUD's legal counsel has sent a letter stating this to the RIPUC. Mr. Partridge made a motion to file which was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

F. FERC Intervention NGrid Tariff

- **Mr. Garille stated that he was working with Attorney John Coyle and PUD has filed an intervention. This tariff would result in a 71% rate increase in getting power from New York transmission lines.**

G. Update on STAG Grant (Well #5 Grant)

- **Ms. Allaire stated that PUD has received its final disbursement from the STAG Grant for Well #5. The project is now completed. There is still \$288,000 that is still available to the District for other projects. Mr. Partridge made a motion to file which was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

H. Schedule of Regular BUC May Meeting

- **The Board agreed to move the meeting to Tuesday, May 27, 2008 due to Memorial Day.**

I. District Office Newsletter

- **The District Office Newsletter was reviewed by the Board. Mr. Partridge made a motion to file which was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.**

5. Approval of Minutes

- **Regular Meeting- March 24, 2008**

Mr. Partridge made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Whitman. The vote in favor was unanimous.

- **Benefits Subcommittee Meeting- April 10, 2008**

Mr. Partridge made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Whitman.

6. Unfinished Business

A. Credit Rating Report- The Board made a motion to add this to the agenda. Pascoag Utility District has received its' credit rating and has obtained an A- rating. An official announcement will be released to the PUC and Division.

7. New Business

08-06-NRCC System Reliability Mandates

Mr. Garille stated that PUD had been notified that we are subject to these regulations and are subject to spot audits. If regulations are not complied with there are hefty fines associated with noncompliance. Mr. Guertin and Ms. Allaire will attend the various meetings regarding this. This mandate has been endorsed by FERC.

08-07-Various Proposed Legislative Bills in RI-Update

Mr. Garille stated that PUD is watching 30-34 bills that have come out this session.

08-08-Approval of LTC Contract with UNUM

Mr. Garille stated that the Benefits Subcommittee has chosen to endorse the LTC Contract. If you qualify for Long Term Health Care, it will cover 50% of Health Care. Mr. Partridge made a motion to approve the LTC contract, Mr. Mageau seconded the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous.

08-09- Review of Audited 2007 Financials

Ms. Allaire stated that the audited financials have not arrived as

scheduled and should be in shortly.

8. Financial Reports

A. Electric Department-February

The Board reviewed Electric Financial Reports. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Partridge, seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

B. Water Department-February

The Board reviewed Water Financial Reports. Motion to receive and file made by Mr. Partridge, seconded by Mr. Mageau. The vote in favor was unanimous.

9. Executive Session

- At 7:10 pm a motion was made by Mr. Partridge to go into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Mageau. The vote in favor was unanimous.**
- To go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing information concerning the security of Pascoag Utility pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(3). The minutes of said meeting shall remain confidential for as long as necessary pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, until a majority of the Board shall vote to open said minutes as provided for an subject to the open meeting law.**
- To go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing information regarding the Exxon Mobil Litigation pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a)(2). The minutes of said meeting shall remain confidential**

for as long as necessary pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5, until a majority of the Board shall vote to open said minutes as provided for an subject to the open meeting law.

Adjournment

Mr. Partridge made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Trudeau. The vote in favor was unanimous. Chairman Palmisciano adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

All meetings of the Pascoag Utility District are subject to the open meetings laws, which include requirements for access by the physically challenged. Anyone wishing to attend these meetings, who may have special needs for access or services such as a sign language interpreter, must contact the District at 568-6222 forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

Brian Choiniere, Secretary
Board of Utility Commissioners

Desarae Downs, Recording Secretary